

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231342

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, AR

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DOD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R AND D)
TEAM

REF: USMILGP MSG 201946Z AUG

1. ON NOV. 19 REPRESENTATIVES OF DOD BRIEFED ARA OFFICERS ON PROPOSED VISIT TO ARGENTINA BY DOD R AND D TEAM. SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED IN ARGENTINA ARE POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION IN THIS FIELD. SUCH COOPERATION WAS THE SUBJECT OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN AMBASSADOR LODGE AND THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE EARLIER THIS YEAR.

2. PRIOR TO TEAM'S DEPARTURE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS EMBASSY'S BEST JUDGEMENT AS TO FOLLOWING:

A. WHAT DEGREE OF INTEREST EXISTS IN ARGENTINE SERVICES FOR JOINT PROJECTS WITH US IN R AND D AND IN CO-PRODUCTION? HAS THIS INTEREST BEEN EXPRESSED
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FORMALLY?

B. WHAT COULD TEAM SUCH AS THAT PROPOSED ACCOMPLISH
THROUGH A VISIT?

C. WOULD A VISIT RAISE EXPECTATIONS THAT US
MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO MEET?

D. IN VIEW OF FRENCH EXPERIENCE WOULD SUCH
PROJECTS COMPLICATE RATHER THAN STRENGTHEN OUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH ARGENTINE ARMED SERVICES?

E. WHAT WOULD BE THE BEST TIMING FOR A TEAM
VISIT?

3. FYI. PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATION THAT US CONSIDER
CO-PRODUCTION PROJECTS IS BEING RECONSIDERED HERE IN
LIGHT OF STRICT INTER-AGENCY GUIDELINES (COPY POUCHED
TO KREBS) WHICH MAKE SUCH PROJECTS UNLIKELY. KISSINGER

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